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IDENTIFICATION FORM

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FROM : BARRY HARRELSON
TO : NOTE TO: JFK TEAM
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HIGHLIGHTING
POSTPONEMENTS

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10331-10340

6 March 1997

Note to JFK Team

CIA SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
RELEASE IN FULL
2000

From: Barry Harrelson

Subject: New JFK Review Process

David Marwell, ARRB Executive Director, is planning to propose to the Board that they change the review process. The focus would change from tracking individual postponements to tracking the release of documents. Under the new approach his staff would have the authority to negotiate with the Agency on the release of information and to make decisions on the released versions of documents. Only issues/documents of disagreement would be placed before the Board.

*decisions
ratified
by
Board*

Marwell is convinced that even with an additional year they will not finish the project with the current approach. He and I spent some time discussing how a new process for would work. He would like to test this process for the April meeting.

The following is a rough outline with some notes for your review . **Please provide me with comments by COB Monday.**

1) HRG and DO reviewers would review the documents the same as they do now (postponements would be blue highlighted). [no change in our procedures]

2) ARRB staff would review the blue highlighted document.

a) If they agree, they would stamp the document "ARRB approved" and return it to HRG to process for NARA.

b) If they disagree they would highlight over the blue with yellow (creating green highlighting), or mark in some way, the information they think should be released. If the two staffs cannot resolve the issue, then the document would go before the Board.

[Major change: ARRB staff would no longer record all the proposed postponements, no DO "damage review", no detailed determination letter requiring HRG reviewers to use the "grid" to determine what happen.]

~~SECRET~~


3) "Non-issue" documents would be prepared by HRG for NARA and sent to the ARRB staff when ready. At that time the ARRB staff would prepare a simplified final determination notice and letter.

[No further action on the document would be required; HRG would file the final determination notice with the document in the retention and "new ORIS" file].

4) "Green" highlighted documents that go to the Board would be handled the same as today.

[The expectation is that a lot less documents would require Board action.]

A major impact will be an increase in the number of documents reviewed. The new process creates a continuous flow of documents to be reviewed and prepared for NARA. The capability of the ARRB to handle documents would greatly increasing requiring us to pick up the pace of the review.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right and a loop at the end.